# **CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS**



### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Creative Expressions offers a number of unique opportunities for people to get involved in their community. Our art, music, and horticulture programs have a strong focus on fostering community connections through partnerships with various businesses and organizations. Whether you want to exhibit in an art show, take part in a musical performance, or improve your gardening skills, there are so many ways to get involved!

### ART PROGRAM

The Art Studio encourages participants to bring their creativity to the surface. Guided by our art specialist, Christin, each group or individual session is uniquely tailored to meet individual needs, abilities and goals. Artists have access to a variety of mediums including drawing, painting, sculpture, book arts, printmaking, and digital animation. Through the sharing of ideas in a positive and supportive environment, artists can begin to explore the unique mark they make, influencing paper and the world around them.

#### CHRISTIN LERSCH Art Specialist

Christin has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Therapy from Mercyhurst College and a strong background in a variety of art mediums, including sensory and experiential art and the use of adaptive art equipment.





### MUSIC PROGRAM

Music is a universal language. Our music program introduces a variety of musical experiences to promote the all-around health and wellbeing of participants in a group or one-on-one setting. These musical experiences have the power to enhance and transform the lives of people with disabilities or other challenges.

#### Nathan Merrill Music Specialist

A graduate of SUNY Brockport, Nathan moved into his role as Music Specialist in 2017 after serving as The Arc Ontario's Recreation Manager. He designs music experiences for individuals to help them meet goals related to their physical, social and emotional wellbeing.









## HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

The greenhouse at The Arc Ontario's Eberhardt Center exercises all of the senses – from the smell of flowers, hands-on gardening, to enjoying the delicious tastes of fresh grown vegetables. Working with our horticultural specialist, participants have access to the greenhouse all year and comfortably explore nature despite rain, snow or heat.

#### Chistopher Ellison Horticulture Specialist

Chris previously worked at The Arc Ontario in the Community Habilitation program and returned at the end of 2020 in his new role as the Horticulture Specialist. Chris has his Masters of Science in Creative Arts Therapy. With a strong background in Horticulture, Chris aims to incorporate sensory learning as well as hands-on instruction in the Greenhouse.

The Arc Ontario



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### We'd love to hear from you.

To learn more about Creative Expressions at The Arc Ontario please contact:

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